

Puerto Viejo
Quemado Ranger District
2016 Annual Operating Instructions
(01/05/16)

As per your Annual meeting held with Emily Irwin and Wayne Witty, please see the following instructions. Please utilize these instructions as direction for management on your grazing allotment during the 2016 Grazing Season. We appreciate your cooperation in the management of your livestock throughout the grazing year.

2016 Pasture Rotation:

Pasture	From	To	Numbers	Allowable Use
Padilla	05/01/16	06/30/16	80	40%
Chavez	07/01/16	09/30/16	80	40%

Grazing Restriction:

The following grazing restrictions will apply as they did in 2015 for portions within the Chavez and Padilla pastures. A map displaying these areas was provided to you with your permit; if you need a new map please contact the District office.

No salt, mineral or supplemental feed may be placed in these areas from February 1 to August 31 and no concentrations of livestock, i.e., corral use, traps or large gathering of livestock is allowed. Routine maintenance of range developments is allowed. The purpose of this restriction is to mitigate wildlife issues.

Allowable Use:

Proper utilization of forage plants is a necessity to maintain long term productivity of the rangeland and to protect soils from erosion. Proper utilization will maintain sufficient ground cover to prevent erosion and meet the physiological needs of key forage plants for maintenance and reproduction over the long term. Allowable use is determined from considering proper use and all influencing factors such as grazing system, range condition, watershed condition, timing and duration of livestock use and scheduled amount of rest between use periods.

The 1995 Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice set guidelines for allowable use levels of key forage species at 40%.

Utilization Monitoring:

Utilization monitoring will be conducted on or near key areas of your allotment. District personnel will monitor pasture use and determine utilization percentage at that time. Monitoring dates will be set according to the previous year's monitoring results. If pastures were approaching allowable use during the 2015 grazing season they will be monitored at the mid-point of the pasture use period to determine if it is necessary for livestock to be moved to the next pasture in the rotation. Please note the following approximate dates that are scheduled for monitoring on the Puerto Viejo Allotment. You are encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

2016 Monitoring Dates:

Pastures	Monitoring Dates
Padilla	06/13/16
Chavez	08/04/16, 09/23/16

If any one key area in a pasture being grazed by livestock exceeds utilization on the uplands, livestock will be moved to another area of the pasture where actual use is less than allowable use. If all remaining key areas in the grazed pasture are at allowable use, livestock will be required to be moved early to the next scheduled pasture. This requirement is necessary to prevent overuse on forage plants.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

If forage growth and/or water availability is not adequate during all or portions of the 2016 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal from the allotment will be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

Range Developments:

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status

Follow up Items from AOI Meeting:

Pipeline Extension from Well – The District will add this to the list of projects that need clearances performed.

West Boundary Fence Reconstruction – The District will add this to the list of projects that need clearances performed.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these annual operating instructions please do not hesitate to contact Wayne Witty at (575)773-4678.

/S/Emily Irwin
Emily Irwin
District Ranger

02/23/16_____
Date